REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were originally filed in the present application.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-20 were rejected in the January 10, 2007 Office Action.

No claims have been allowed.

Claims 1 and 11 are amended herein.

Claims 1-20 remain in the present application.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants have amended the Specification as shown herein. Applicants note that the amendments to the Specification do not add new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the amendments to the Specification be entered.

In the January 10, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0191573 A1 to *Whitehill, et al.* (the "Whitehill reference") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0039357 A1 to *Lipasti, et al.* (the "Lipasti reference"). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 1 of the present application currently requires:

> For use in a mobile ad hoc network formed by a plurality of mobile ad hoc network (MANET) nodes, a first MANET node capable of routing data packets, said first MANET node comprising:
> a radio frequency (RF) transceiver capable of wirelessly communicating with other ones of said plurality of MANET nodes; and
> a controller capable of receiving incoming data packets from said RF transceiver and sending outgoing data packets to said RF transceiver, wherein said controller is further capable of receiving a first data packet associated with at least

one of: the incoming data packet and the outgoing data packet, *determining a first medium access control (MAC) layer address associated with said first data packet, and adding said first MAC layer address to said first data packet.* (*emphasis added*).

Notably, Claim 1 currently requires that the controller *determine a first medium access control (MAC) layer address associated with said first data packet* and *adding said first MAC layer address to said first data packet.*

The Whitehall reference, on the other hand, teaches a narrowly directed system for a protocol stack with embedded routing algorithms under the Internet Protocol (IP) routing layer. Whitehall reference, Abstract, pages 1 and 2, paragraphs [0011]-[0013]. The embedded routing algorithms aid in providing high quality distribution of multimedia. *Id.* However, contrary to the Examiner's suggestions on page 4 of the January 10, 2007 Office Action, the Whitehill reference fails to teach or disclose a controller that *determines a first medium access control (MAC) layer address associated with said first data packet*, as currently required by Claim 1 and its dependents.

The Examiner goes on to suggest, on page 4 of the January 10, 2007 Office Action, that the Lipasti reference teaches adding a first MAC layer address to said first data packet. Applicants respectfully disagree. The Lipasti reference teaches that paths defining the route between different mobile nodes are stored. Lipasti reference, pages 4 & 5, paragraph [0087]. At most, the Lipasti reference teaches adding routing information extensions (23) to packets describing the path to the destination L2.5 address, where the L2.5 address is a 64-bit broadcast address. *Id.*

Accordingly, the Whitehall reference, either alone or in any combination with Lipasti reference, fails to teach or disclose a controller that *determines a first medium access control (MAC)*

layer address associated with said first data packet, as currently required by Claim 1 and its

dependents. In addition, the Whitehall reference, either alone or in any combination with the Lipasti

reference, fails to teach or disclose *a controller that adds said first MAC layer address to said first*

data packet, as also currently required by Claim 1 and its dependents. Similar arguments hold true

for Claim 11 and its dependents.

Moreover, there is no suggestion or motivation within either of the cited references to prompt

one of ordinary skill to selectively combine discrete elements from each and then *seek out* still others

as currently required by Claim 1 and its dependents.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and the withdrawal of

the §103 rejection.

SUMMARY

For the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims and that this application be passed to issue. If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *jmockler@munckbutrus.com*.
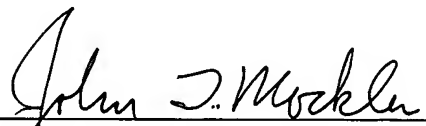
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

MUNCK BUTRUS, P.C.

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